



VILLAGE OF HATCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes

Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 6:00 pm

Attendees: Mayor Torres, Mayor Pro Tem Atencio, Trustee Martinez, Trustee Chairez, Trustee Olvera, Angel Soto, Elizabeth Soto, Marcia Nordyke, Isabel Garcia, Phyllis Sims, Tim Jackson, Vonda Jackson, Gary Reed, Elizabeth Mendez, Ramon Cerritero, Concha Benavidez, Andy Legarreta, Leonard Montoya, Alice Soto, Bernadette Acosta, Eric Hamilton, Lisa Neal, Trey Gimler, Elizabeth Porras.

Trustees Chambers - 133 North Franklin St, Hatch New Mexico

1. Call to Order/ Roll Call/ Pledge of Allegiance/ Moment of Silence

Minutes:

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hatch was held in the Trustees Chambers located at 133 N. Franklin Street, Hatch, NM, on the above date. Mayor Torres, asked the Clerk Treasurer for roll call as follows: Mayor Torres-Present, Mayor Pro Tem Atencio-Present, Trustee Martinez-Present, Trustee Chairez - Present, Trustee Olvera - Present. There being a quorum, Mayor Torres called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Trustee Martinez led all in attendance in the pledge of allegiance and Mayor Pro Tem Atencio gave the opening prayer.

2. * Approval of Agenda

Minutes:

Trustee Martinez moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Atencio. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

3. *Consent Agenda (Police, Museum, Planning & Zoning, Parks & Rec, Library, Cemetery, Court Reports, Approved Bills List, Delinquent Bill List, Utility Applications, Travel & Training, Regular Meeting Minutes March 10, 2026, Special Meeting Minutes March 16, 2026).

Minutes:

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

4. Recess Regular Meeting for Public Hearing**Minutes:**

The Mayor requested a motion to recess the Regular Meeting to conduct a Public Hearing. Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to recess the meeting, seconded by Trustee Martinez. The motion carried. The meeting was recessed at 6:02 p.m.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

- a. **The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public input regarding the approval or disapproval of a liquor license application for on-premises consumption and package sales, including patio service, submitted by Hatch Valley Local Taproom, LLC, located at 119 E. Hall St., Hatch, New Mexico.**

Minutes:

The purpose of the Public Hearing was to receive public input regarding the approval or disapproval of a liquor license application for on-premises consumption and package sales, including patio service, submitted by Hatch Valley Local Taproom, LLC, located at 119 E. Hall St., Hatch, New Mexico. Several comments were received from members of the public in favor of Hatch Valley Local Taproom LLC.

5. Reconvene Regular Meeting**Minutes:**

Following the conclusion of the Public Hearing, Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to reconvene the Regular Meeting, seconded by Trustee Chairez. The motion carried. The Regular Meeting was reconvened at 6:09 p.m.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

6. ***Consideration and approval of a liquor license application for on-premises consumption and package sales, including patio service, submitted by Hatch Valley Local Taproom, LLC, located at 119 E. Hall St., Hatch, New Mexico.**

Minutes:

Trustee Martinez moved to approve the liquor license application for on-premises consumption and package sales, including patio service, submitted by Hatch Valley Local Taproom, LLC, located at 119 E. Hall St., Hatch, New Mexico. Seconded by Trustee Olvera. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

7. ***Resolution No. xxx - Authorizing the Mayor to approve and execute celebration liquor permits and street closure requests for special events.**

Minutes:

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to approve Resolution No. 1117 Authorizing the Mayor to approve and execute celebration liquor permits and street closure requests for special events as needed. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Atencio — aye; Trustee Martinez — aye; Trustee Chairez — aye; Trustee Olvera — aye. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

8. Public input

Minutes:

Elizabeth Soto expressed her gratitude to all Village of Hatch staff for their professionalism and customer service, including the Administrative Office, Public Works Department, and Police Department. She stated she is very thankful to have such a dedicated team serving the community.

Bernadette Acosta, President of the Chamber of Commerce, reported that over 60 rocks were made for the community rock hunt, and participants are still finding them. She also stated that tickets for the June 13 cash party will be available for purchase soon. Additionally, the Chamber was contacted by the New Mexico Chile Association and assisted with preparing goody bags for the legislative session.

Phyllis Sims asked the Board to consider ways to encourage local businesses to improve the appearance of their properties, noting concerns about some locations appearing unkempt. She also inquired about the timeline for replacement of the canal bridge and expressed a desire to see continued efforts to improve the town's appearance.

Terry Trujillo commented that weeds throughout the Village are becoming an issue and negatively impacting the community's appearance.

Lorenzo Ramos expressed concern regarding a shortage of police officers and stated that increased youth-related incidents could pose a safety risk if not addressed. He referenced a past shooting incident during the Chile Festival as an example of potential consequences.

9. Terry Ogle, CPA Accounting & Financial Solutions, LLC - FY25 Audit Presentation.

Minutes:

Terry Ogle, CPA with Accounting & Financial Solutions, LLC, presented the FY25 audit. He stated that it was a pleasure working with the Village team and noted that the Village has a strong team and is doing a good job.

10. *Resolution No. xxx - Acceptance and Approval of the FY 2025 Audit (Including Single Audit).

Minutes:

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to approve Resolution No. 1118 Acceptance and Approval of the FY 2025 Audit (Including Single Audit). Seconded by Trustee Chairez. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Atencio — aye; Trustee Martinez — aye; Trustee Chairez — aye; Trustee Olvera — aye. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

11. Bohannan Huston Report

Minutes:

Eric Hamilton, Senior Project Manager provided a status update for all ongoing services provided by Bohannan Huston

12. *Resolution No. xxx - Authorizing the submittal of an application for the 2027-2028 New Mexico Department of Transportation's (NMDOT) Transportation Project Fund (TPF).

Minutes:

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to approve Resolution No. 1119 Authorizing the submittal of an application for the 2027-2028 New Mexico Department of Transportation's (NMDOT) Transportation Project Fund (TPF). Seconded by Trustee Martinez. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Atencio — aye; Trustee Martinez — aye; Trustee Chairez — aye; Trustee Olvera — aye. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

13. Wilson & Company Report

Minutes:

There was no representative from Wilson & Company in attendance at this month's meeting.

14. *Resolution No. xxx - A Resolution confirming the Village of Hatch to participate and request for match waiver in the New Mexico Department of Transportation Project Fund Call for Projects.

Minutes:

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to approve Resolution No. 1120 Confirming the Village of Hatch to participate and request for match waiver in the New Mexico Department of Transportation Project Fund Call for Projects. Seconded by Trustee Olvera. The Board was polled as follows: Mayor Pro Tem Atencio — aye; Trustee Martinez — aye; Trustee Chairez — aye; Trustee Olvera — aye. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

15. *Consideration and approval of Memorandum of Agreement between the Village of Hatch, New Mexico and Dona Ana County for the Hatch Public Library.

Minutes:

Trustee Martinez moved to approve Memorandum of Agreement between the Village of Hatch, New Mexico and Dona Ana County for the Hatch Public Library. Seconded by Trustee Chairez. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

16. *Consideration and possible approval to allow private league coordinators to rent Village baseball fields for a flat seasonal rate of \$1,000. Coordinators shall be responsible for all league operations, including scheduling, officials, and overall

program management. Coordinators must provide proof of liability insurance naming the Village as an additional insured and shall comply with all Village rules and regulations for park use, including field maintenance and cleanup. This rental arrangement is separate from the Village-run youth league program, associated participation fees, Chile Festival tournaments, and any other special events.

Minutes:

Trustee Chairez moved to approve to allow private league coordinators to rent Village baseball fields for a flat seasonal rate of \$1,000. Coordinators shall be responsible for all league operations, including scheduling, officials, and overall program management. Coordinators must provide proof of liability insurance naming the Village as an additional insured and shall comply with all Village rules and regulations for park use, including field maintenance and cleanup. This rental arrangement is separate from the Village-run youth league program, associated participation fees, Chile Festival tournaments, and any other special events. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

17. Personnel

- a. ***Consideration and possible approval of a \$4.00 per hour wage increase for Police Officers Steven A. Cardona and Adrian Garcia, effective April 13–26, 2026 (payable April 27, 2026), with no additional wage increases to be granted to these officers during Fiscal Year 2026-2027.**

Minutes:

Mayor Pro Tem Atencio moved to approve a \$4.00 per hour wage increase for Police Officers Steven A. Cardona and Adrian Garcia, effective April 13–26, 2026 (payable April 27, 2026), with no additional wage increases to be granted to these officers during Fiscal Year 2026-2027. Seconded by Trustee Martinez. Motion carried.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

18. Department Head Input

Minutes:

Chief Gimler provided a brief report on Police Department activities for the month of March. He stated that operations are running smoothly with no major issues. The Doña Ana County Sheriff's Office (DASO) and State Police continue to assist with coverage during the Village's ongoing staffing shortages. Three officer candidates have been interviewed, and pending successful background checks and psychological evaluations, new hires are expected to be brought on board.

Lisa Neal, Library Director, reported that operations at the library are running smoothly. She has been planning summer programming, with the reading program scheduled to begin in June. She also noted that she will seek Board approval at next month's meeting for the Strategic Plan, Community Vision and Assessment Plan, and the Hatch Library Materials Policy.

19. Mayor & Trustees Input

Minutes:

The Mayor reported that the Village is awaiting final executed agreements prior to bidding the Canal Bridge construction project and anticipates a response from the Governor’s Office within the next few months.

20. * Adjourn

Minutes:

In the absence of further business, Trustee Martinez moved to adjourn at 7:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Chairez, and it carried.

Signed: _____

ATTEST: _____

Date: _____

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MAY CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION to discuss limited personnel matters; threatened or pending litigation, as authorized by the Open Meetings Act 10-15-1(H) (2), 10-15-1 (H) (7) and 10-15-1 (H) (5) respectively.

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact the Village of Hatch office at (575)-267-5216 at least one (1) week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes, can be provided in various accessible formats.

Next Regular Meeting: May 12, 2026